



**Global Platform
for Disaster Risk Reduction**
Third Session, Geneva, Switzerland
8 - 13 May 2011



**Third Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction
Geneva, Switzerland
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**MEETING OF NATIONAL PLATFORMS:
ENHANCING DISASTER RISK REDUCTION THROUGH BETTER GOVERNANCE**

**9 May, Monday, 1400-1700
Room 4, Ground Floor, CIG**

Background

The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005-2015 highlights that “sustainable development, poverty reduction, good governance and disaster risk reduction (DRR) are mutually supportive objectives”. It also reaffirms the need to systematically integrate DRR into policies, plans and programmes for sustainable development and poverty reduction.

In line with the above, efforts to develop multi-stakeholder mechanisms for disaster risk reduction have been made since 2005. This has resulted in improved governance in support of DRR, i.e. through the passing of legislation and development of related national policies, release of the revised guidelines for National Platforms (NPs) and enhanced efforts to revisit and strengthen the role of NPs in support of governance and government accountability on DRR.

Despite this, the 2009 Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction found that: a) in many countries, governance arrangements for DRR have not been able to facilitate the integration of disaster risk considerations into development and b) generally, existing institutional and legislative arrangements for disaster risk reduction are weakly connected to development sectors. These findings were corroborated by the recently-concluded Mid-term Review of the HFA, which states that, there is still a need to “clearly define responsibilities for setting strategic guidance through multi-stakeholder processes, for driving policy and planning, for mainstreaming disaster risk reduction into the development agenda, and ultimately for the effective implementation of these plans”.

To bolster governance-related initiatives, the Meeting of National Platforms during the Second Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2009 provided a number of recommendations to countries, including, among others, the: a) continued expansion of human and financial support to develop fully functional National Platforms as a means to support accelerated implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action at local, regional and national levels; b) support to the development of National Platforms as multi-stakeholder structures including the private sector, non-

government organizations and civil society; and c) utilization of the capacities and lessons learned from National Platforms to develop coordination mechanisms and strategies for DRR at the local level.

This meeting aims to build on the gains made in the 2009 Meeting of National Platforms by:

- Looking into existing governance mechanisms which support Government action for disaster risk reduction and effective implementation of the HFA at the national and local levels; and
- Identifying ways forward for improved and more efficient governance and institutional arrangements for DRR.

Its key expected outcomes are the identification of:

- Good practices and lessons learned in governance for disaster risk reduction; and
- Priorities for future actions and recommendations for the Global Platform Chair's Summary.

Proposed Programme

1400 Welcome Remarks

1410 Background and Lessons Learned

- Review of Global Assessment Report 2011 Findings
- Outcomes of the HFA MTR
- Review of the Recommendations of the Second Session of the Global Platform

Brief presentations on the GAR 2011 findings, MTR outcomes and recommendations from the 2009 Global Platform's Meeting of National Platforms to set the context of discussions

1430 Existing governance and institutional arrangements for DRR

- Kyrgyzstan's new National Platform
- Kazakhstan's experience
- Vietnam's experience in integrating DRR into climate change adaptation (TBC)
- Ecuador's experience
- Mauritania's experience
- Gambia's experience
- A European Network of National Platforms (TBC)
- Twinning between Albania and Italy (TBC)

Short presentations on innovative approaches at regional, national and local levels, focusing on what works, which factors contributed to success and what are the key constraints to deal with

Q&A

1600 Ways Forward

*Definition of key elements which promote better governance for DRR and
identification of key recommendations to the Chair's Summary*

1650 Closing